

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1814

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, EIND, CA

SUBJ: CANADIAN AEROSPACE INDUSTRY - YAK 40

REF: 76 OTTAWA 3973, 76 STATE 225065, 76 MOSCOW 15930

ARTHUR SMITH, PRESIDENT OF SOCCAN AIRCRAFT LTD. AND VICE PRESIDENT OF ALLARCO DEVELOPMENTS LTD., TOLD CONGEN HIS SIRM PLANNED PURCHASE OF THREE YAK-40 (STOL) TRIJETS. THESE PLANES ARE TO BE SOLD IN CANADA AS REPLACEMENT FOR DC-3 AIRCRAFT. SMITH OR ONE OF HIS BUSINESS ASSOCIATES WILL TRAVEL TO SOVIET UNION OCTOBER 21 TO CONFIRM PURCHASE ARRANGEMENTS. PLANE IS TO BE MODIFIED LOCALLY AND SMITH CLAIMS THAT AIRCRAFT WILL BE CERTIFIED FOR USE IN CANADA BY JULY OR AUGUST OF 1977. ACCORDING TO SMITH THE YAK-40 S WILL BE OUTFITTED WITH KING EQUIPMENT. SOCCAN PRESENTLY EMPLOYS SMALL CALGARY STAFF WHICH WILL BE AUGMENTED BY ARRIVAL OF SOVIET AVIATION OFFICIAL IN NOVEMBER. WE UNDERSTAND THAT YAK-40 SALE HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND THAT ALLARCO HAS PUT UP DOLS ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND TOWARD PURCHASE OF THREE AIRCRAFT. RATTRAY

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